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#### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims, please make the following amendments:

1. (Currently amended): A method for preparing a compound having the following formula:

wherein R is an alkoxy blocking group; P is a hydroxyl protecting group; and L is a leaving group, the method comprising the steps of:

reacting a compound of the formula:

with a hydroxyl protecting group to produce a compound having the following formula:

PAGE 4/15 \* RCVD AT 9/15/2006 2:52:14 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/33 \* DNIS:2738300 \* CSID:1-732-321-3030 \* DURATION (mm-ss):04-18

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wherein P is the same as defined above;

b. enolating the reaction product of step (a) produce a compound having the following formula:

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wherein P and R are the same as defined above; and

c. incorporating a leaving group to produce a compound having the following formula:

2. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein P is selected from the group consisting of methoxymethyl ether, methylthiomethyl ether, 2-methoxyethoxymethyl ether, 1-ethoxyethyl ether, 1-methyl-1-methoxyethyl ether, t-butyl ether, allyl ether, benzyl ether, 4-nitrobenzyl ether, o-nitrobenzyl ether, trityl ether, monomethoxytrityl ether, dimethoxytrityl ether, tritylone ether, tetrahydropyran ether, tetrahydropyranyl ether, 4-methoxy tetrahydropyran ether, 4-methoxytetrahydrothiopyranyl ether, tetrahydrofuran ether, tetrahydrotriofuranyl ether, isobutyrate ester, pivaloate ester, adamantoate ester, benzoate ester, 2,4,6,-trimethylbenzoate ester, methyl carbonate, allyl carbonate, benzyl carbonate, p-nitrobenzyl carbonate, t-Bu carbonate, S-benzylthio carbonate, N-phenyl carbamate, and nitrate ester.

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- 3. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein P is selected from the group consisting of dimethoxytrityl, monomethoxytrityl, trityl, t-butyloxycarbonyl, t-butyldimethylsilyl, t-butyldiphenylsilyl, tetrahydropyranyl ether, tetrahydrofuranyl ether, ethoxyethyl ether, and 1-methyl-1-methoxyethyl ether.
- 4. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein R is alkyl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>, + propyl, benzyl, cycloalkane C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>, phenyl, tosyl, acetate, or benzoate.
- 5. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein R is methyl, ethyl, *i*-propyl, benzyl, or cycloalkane  $C_{3}$ - $C_{6}$ .
- 6. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein step (b) includes treating the reaction product of step (a) with an alkoxide having 1 to 4 carbons, cycloalkoxide C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>, phenoxide, tosyate, acetate, or benzoate.
- 7. (Original) The method according to Claim 6, wherein the alkoxide is sodium methoxide.
- 8. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein L is a sulfonate ester.
- 9. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein L is selected from the group consisting of mesylate, nosylate, tosylate, and triflate.
- 10. (Currently amended) A method for preparing a precursor for the preparation of a radiolabeled nucleoside comprising:
  - a. converting a 2-deoxy nucleoside into a 2,3'-anhydronucleoside;
- b. reacting the 2,3'-anhydronucleoside with a hydroxyl protecting group to produce a 2,3'-anhydronucleoside derivative wherein the 5'-O group is protected;
- c. reacting the protected 2,3'-anhydronucleoside derivative with a reagent that opens the 2,3'-anhydro-ring and enolates the 2-position on the pyrimidine ring; and

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d. Incorporating a leaving group to produce the radiolabeled nucleoside precursor;

wherein the nucleoside base is thymidine or uridine.

- 11. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 10, wherein the nucleoside is thymidine, eytidine, or uridine.
- 12. (Currently amended) A method for preparing a precursor for the preparation of <u>3'-Deoxy-3'-[18F]-fluoro-thymidine</u> (18F-FLT) comprising:
  - a. converting thymidine into 2,3'-anhydrothymidine;
- b. reacting the 2,3'-anhydro thymidine with a hydroxyl protecting group to produce a 2,3'-anhydrothymidine derivative wherein the 5'-O group is protected;
- c. reacting the protected 2,3'-anhydrothymidine derivative with a reagent that opens the 2,3'-anhydro-ring and enolates the 2-position on the pyrimidine ring; and
  - d. incorporating a leaving group to produce the <sup>18</sup>F-FLT precursor.
- 13. (Original) The method according to Claim 12, wherein step (c) produces an enol having an -O-R group attached to the 2-carbon.
- 14. (Currently amended): A method according to Claim 13, wherein R is alkyl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>, ÷ propyl, benzyl, cycloalkane C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>, phenyl, tosyl, acetate, or benzoate.
- 15. (Original) A method according to Claim 12, wherein step (c) includes treating the reaction product of step (b) with an alkoxide.
- 16. (Previously amended) A method according to Claim 15, wherein the alkoxide is selected from the group consisting of sodium methoxide, and sodium ethoxide.
- 17. (Original) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the hydroxyl protecting group is dimethoxytrityl, monomethoxytrityl, trityl, t-butyloxycarbonyl, t-butyldimethylsilyl,

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t-butyldiphenylsilyl, tetrahydropyranyl ether, tetrahydrofuranyl ether, ethoxyethyl ether, or 1-methyl-1-methoxyethyl ether.

- 18. (Original) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the hydroxyl protecting group is dimethoxytrityl, monomethoxytrityl, or trityl.
- 19. (Original) A method according to Claim 12 wherein the leaving group is a sulfonate ester.
- 20. (Original) A method according to Claim 19, wherein the leaving group is mesylate, tosylate, nosylate, or triflate.
- 21. (Currently amended): A compound having the following formula:

wherein R is alkyl  $C_1$ - $C_4$ , i-propyl, benzyl, cycloalkane  $C_3$ - $C_6$ , phenyl, tosyl, acetate, or benzoate; P is a hydroxyl protecting group; and L is a leaving group.

- 22. (Original) A compound according to Claim 21, wherein R is methyl or ethyl.
- 23. (Original) A compound according to Claim 21, wherein P is methoxymethyl ether, methylthiomethyl ether, 2-methoxyethoxymethyl ether, 1-ethoxyethyl ether, 1-methyl-1-methoxyethyl ether, t-butyl ether, allyl ether, benzyl ether, 4-nitrobenzyl ether, o-nitrobenzyl ether, trityl ether, monomethoxytrityl ether, dimethoxytrityl ether, tritylone ether; tetrahydropyran ether, tetrahydrothiopyranyl ether, 4-methoxy tetrahydropyran ether, 4-methoxytetrahydrothiopyranyl ether, tetrahydrofuran ether, tetrahydrotriofuranyl ether, isobutyrate ester, pivaloate ester, adamantoate ester, benzoate ester, 2,4,6,-trimethylbenzoate ester; methyl carbonate, allyl carbonate, benzyl carbonate, p-

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nitrobenzyl carbonate, t-Bu carbonate, S-benzylthio carbonate, N-phenyl carbamate, or nitrate ester.

24. (Original) A compound according to Claim 21, wherein P is dimethoxytrityl, monomethoxytrityl, trityl, t-butyloxycarbonyl, t-butyldimethylsilyl, t-butyldiphenylsilyl, tetrahydropyranyl ether, tetrahydrofuranyl ether, ethoxyethyl ether, or 1-methyl-1-methoxyethyl ether.

25. (Original) A compound according to Claim 21, wherein P is dimethoxytrityl.

26. (Original) A compound according to Claim 21, wherein L is a sulfonate ester.

27. (Original) A compound according to Claim 21, wherein L is selected from the group consisting of p-(2,4-dinitroanilino)benzenesulfonyl, benzenesulfonyl, methylsulfonyl (mesylate), p-methylbenzenesulfonyl (tosylate), 4-nitrobenzene sulfonyl (nosylate), p-bromobenzenesulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl (triflate), trichloroacetimidate, acyloxy, 2,2,2-trifluoroethanesulfonyl, imidazolesulfonyl, and 2,4,6-trichlorophenyl.

28. (Original) A compound according to Claim 21, wherein R is methyl, P is dimethoxy trityl, and L is mesylate, to sylate, or no sylate.

29. (Original) A compound having the following formula:

wherein Ms is methylsulfonyl.

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30. (Currently amended) A compound having the following formula:

wherein R is alkyl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>, i-propyl, benzyl, cycloalkane C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>, phenyl, tosyl, acetate, or benzoate; P is a hydroxyl protecting group; X is oxygen, sulfur, or nitrogen, and L is a leaving group.

- A compound according to Claim 30, wherein L is halogen, p-(2,4-31. (Original) dinitroanilino)benzenesulfonyl, benzenesulfonyl, methylsulfonyl (mesylate), pmethylbenzenesulfonyl (tosylate), 4-nitrobenzene sulfonyl (nosylate), pbromobenzenesulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl (triflate), trichloroacetimidate, acyloxy, 2,2,2-trifluoroethanesulfonyl, imidazolesulfonyl, or 2,4,6-trichlorophenyl.
- 32. (Original) A compound according to Claim 30, wherein P is dimethoxytrityl, monomethoxytrityl, trityl, t-butyloxycarbonyl, t-butyldimethylsilyl, t-butyldiphenylsilyl, tetrahydropyranyl ether, tetrahydrofuranyl ether, ethoxyethyl ether, or 1-methyl-1methoxyethyl ether.

33-34. (Cancelled)

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